

REMARKS

The Examiner's reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the further amendments above and comments which follow.

Turning first to Claims 93 and 96, those claims have been cancelled, and therefore all issues regarding them are now moot. Regarding the claim objections set forth at the bottom of page 2 of the Office Action, the changes to Claims 67 and 76 have been made as requested, and therefore, it is believed that those claims are now in proper order and are in condition for allowance.

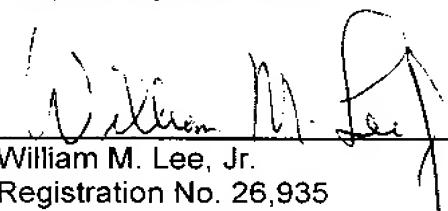
Finally, the Examiner argues that newly-submitted Claim 112 is directed to an invention that is distinct from the invention as originally claimed. Reconsideration is requested, and consideration and allowance of Claim 112 is urged.

Claim 112 is merely a recasting of Claim 97 as a method claim. It contains all of what is in Claim 97, which the Examiner has found to be part of the elected invention, so Claim 112 should similarly be found to be part of the elected invention. Reconsideration is therefore urged.

Finally, since this response is being submitted during the fourth month following the Examiner's Office Action, an appropriate Petition for Extension of Time is also submitted herewith.

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Respectfully submitted,



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